



US009410820B2

(12) **United States Patent**
Ausserlechner et al.

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 9,410,820 B2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Aug. 9, 2016**

(54) **STRESS COMPENSATION SYSTEMS AND METHODS IN DIFFERENTIAL SENSORS**

(75) Inventors: **Udo Ausserlechner**, Villach (AT);
Mario Motz, Wernberg (DE)

(73) Assignee: **Infineon Technologies AG**, Neubiberg (DE)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 1005 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **13/540,081**

(22) Filed: **Jul. 2, 2012**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2014/0003464 A1 Jan. 2, 2014

(51) **Int. Cl.**
G01D 3/02 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
CPC **G01D 3/021** (2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
CPC G01R 33/0029; G01R 33/0082; G01R 33/0023; G01D 3/0365; G01D 3/036; G01D 3/021; G01D 18/00; G01D 18/008; G01L 9/065; G01L 19/02; G01L 25/00; G01L 1/26; G01L 27/002; H03M 1/06

See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

7,302,357 B2	11/2007	Ausserlechner
7,889,030 B2	2/2011	Schoen et al.
2005/0162160 A1	7/2005	Ausserlechner
2009/0108839 A1	4/2009	Ausserlechner
2013/0241540 A1	9/2013	Ausserlechner
2013/0314075 A1	11/2013	Ausserlechner et al.
2014/0210458 A1	7/2014	Ausserlechner

Primary Examiner — Daniel S Larkin

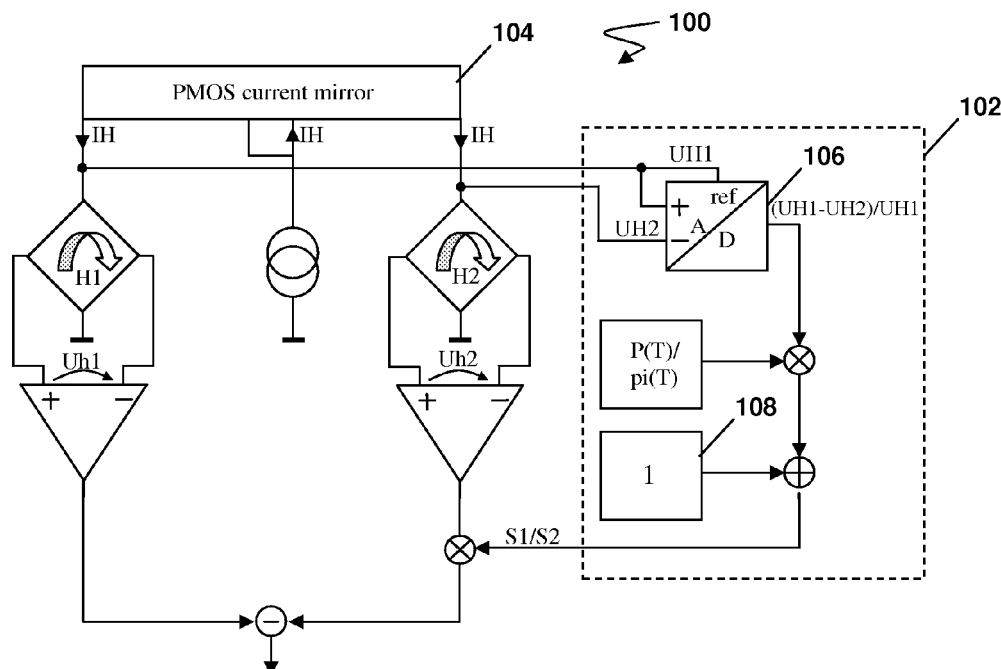
Assistant Examiner — Jamar Ray

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Schiff Hardin LLP

(57) **ABSTRACT**

Embodiments relate to stress compensation in differential sensors. In an embodiment, instead of compensating for stress on each sensor element independently, stress compensation circuitry aims to remove stress-related mismatch between two sensor elements using the sensor elements themselves to detect the mismatch. A circuit can be implemented in embodiments to detect mechanical stress-related mismatch between sensor elements using the sensor elements, and tune the output signal by a compensation factor to eliminate the mismatch. Embodiments are therefore less complicated and less expensive than conventional approaches. While embodiments have applicability to virtually any differential sensor, including magnetic field, pressure, temperature, current and speed, an example embodiment discussed herein relates to magnetic field.

16 Claims, 2 Drawing Sheets



Difference-stress compensated total signal $U_{H1} - (S1/S2) \cdot U_{H2}$